NEWS 010



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KTVL 10.1: CBS HD KTVL 10.2: Southern Oregon CW KTVL 10.3: COMET KTVL 10.4 GRIT We received the attached complaint from a representative of the "Defeat the Tax on Oregon Sales" campaign on 9/30/16 regarding the "Yes on 97 - Numbers" announcement. Attached is the response from the "Yes on 97" organization.

Subsequently, the "Yes on 97" campaign discontinued airing the "Numbers" commercial, effective September 30th.

Signed:

Kingsley Kelley, General Maha



September 30, 2016

Jay T. Waldron T: 503-796-2945 jwaldron@schwabe.com

RE: Yes on 97

Dear Station Manager:

We represent Defeat the Tax on Oregon Sales, the political committee opposing Measure 97.

We request that your station stop airing Yes On 97's ad entitled "OREGON'S NUMBERS PROBLEM."

This ad contains false statements of material fact.

Because a station has the right to decide whether the station will run an ad, if the station is told an ad is false and the station continues to broadcast the ad, the station can be held liable for the false statements. As demonstrated in the discussion below, there is sufficient evidence of the falseness of the Yes On 97's statements available now to require the station to stop airing the ad while the station investigates the statements.

We address the false statements in the order in which they appeared in the ad.

"1 in 10 SENIORS LIVING IN POVERTY"

The statement is false. The proponents substantiate the statement with a citation to census data, but the cited census data is years out-of-date. Current information from the United States Census Bureau shows that 1 in 17 Oregon seniors lives in poverty. The current information is enclosed with this letter.

"OREGON IS LAST IN CORPORATE TAXES"

This statement is false. The analyses cited by Yes On 97 to substantiate the statement are analyses of "business" taxes, not "corporate" taxes. The analysis by Anderson Economic Group ("Anderson") is available here:

http://www.andersoneconomicgroup.com/Portals/0/AEG%20Tax%20Burden%20Study_2016_FINAL.pdf.

The analysis by Ernst & Young is available here: http://www.ocpp.org/media/uploads/documents/2014/cost-2014-FY13-taxes.pdf.

September 30, 2016 Page 2

The difference between "business" and "corporate" taxes is material because "corporate" taxes are a small subset of "business" taxes. In fact, the Anderson report at page 5 is careful to explain that its analysis should not be taken, as Yes On 97 has, as a statement about corporate taxation:

[T]he corporate income tax is often seen as the most important state or local tax on businesses. However * * * of the 11 categories of state and local taxes we identify, corporate income taxes account for under 10% of the total tax burden for all states combined.

This distinction is important. Oregon's "business" tax burden may be the lowest in the country (according to the Anderson and Ernst & Young analyses) not because "corporate" taxes are low, but, rather, because Oregon does not have a general sales tax that everyone pays. It is the absence of a sales tax that drives Oregon's "business" ranking, not low "corporate taxes." The Anderson analysis at page 6 emphasizes this point: "Oregon has no general sales tax, but otherwise is not among the ten lowest-burden states in any particular tax category."

Exhibit II to the Anderson Economic Group analysis, a copy of which is enclosed, substantiates that Oregon does not have low—let alone the lowest—corporate taxes. Corporations pay the State of Oregon more taxes than corporations pay many other states. For example, despite Oregon's being a much smaller than Ohio, corporations pay Oregon more than twice the amount of taxes corporations pay Ohio.

This information is consistent with analyses that focus on corporate taxation. According to *The Tax Foundation: State Corporate Income Tax Rates and Brackets for 2016* (which can be accessed at http://taxfoundation.org/article/state-corporate-income-tax-rates-and-brackets-2016), Oregon corporate taxes rank in the middle of the pack among states. Six states have no corporate income tax. North Carolina has the lowest top rate for corporate taxpayers at 4%. Iowa has the highest at 12%. Oregon's top rate is 7.6%. Thus, the statement that Oregon has the lowest corporate tax rate is false.

"With Oregon's corporate taxes lowest in the nation, large and out-of-state corporations, like Comcast and Chevron, pay almost nothing."

This statement is false. Yes On 97's ad does not cite any authentication for the statement, presumably because there is none. According to Exhibit II to the Anderson report, corporations paid \$558 million in corporate taxes to Oregon in 2014. Even if the corporate taxes considered are limited to the taxes paid by corporations that would be subject to Measure 97, according to Oregon's Legislative Revenue Office, affected corporations paid over \$335 million to Oregon in 2013. Regardless of whether one considers the \$558 million paid to Oregon or the \$335 million paid to Oregon, it is false to state that large and out-of-state corporations "pay almost nothing."

September 30, 2016 Page 3

"Measure 97 forces corporations with over \$25 million in Oregon sales to pay their fair share"

This statement is false because it is materially under-inclusive. Measure 97 applies only to one kind of corporation--" certain C corporations." http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2016/08/faq_oregons_corporate_tax_meas.html.

According to Oregon's Legislative Revenue Officer, there are hundreds of other kinds of corporations with over \$25 million in Oregon sales paying taxes in Oregon: "[w]e do have data on the Oregon sales of S-Corps. There were about 500 of them in the 2013 tax year that had sales greater than \$25 million." The statement could thus be accurate only if the statement referred to forcing "some" corporations to pay.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let us know if you have any questions or need additional information.

If Yes On 97 responds to the station's investigation of the statements, we would appreciate receiving a copy of the response. Given Yes On 97's use of out-of-date information and mischaracterization of sources, we suggest it would be prudent to vet any substantiating information Yes On 97 provides.

Sincerely,

SCHWABE, WILLIAMSON & WYATT, P.C.

Jay T. Waldron

JTW:ksy Enclosures

POV46: Poverty Status by State: 2015

Below 100% and 50% of Poverty -- People 65 Years and Over

Data are based on the CPS ASEC sample of 68,000 addresses, see footnote.

For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar16.pdf

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2016 Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

(Numbers in thousands. Standard errors calculated using replicate weights. Use caution when interpreting state-level estimates, because they have high variability. Please observe the size of the standard errors when interpreting the data — the larger the standard error, the less reliable the estimate.)

People 65 Years and Over

SAMPLE PERSON COUNT

SAMPLE PERSON COUN	COUNT		Below 100% of r	00% of poverty (5)			Below 50% of poverty (5)	overtv (5)	
	All	Number St	YE INVINITED A STORY		Standard error	Number	Standard error		Standard error
	levels		(a)		19)		(61)		<u>6</u>
United States	23,697	2,359	(N/A)	10.0	(N/A)	222	(N/A)	3.3	(N/A)
Alabama	454	63	(N/A)	13.9	(N/A)	22	(N/A)	4.8	(N/A)
Alaska	226	4	(N/A)	8.0	(N/A)	8	(N/A)	3.5	(N/A)
Arizona	394	42	(N/A)	10.7	(N/A)	10	(N/A)	2.5	(N/A)
Arkansas	435	47	(N/A)	10.8	(N/A)	9	(N/A)	4.4	(N/A)
California	2,058	226	(N/A)	11.0	(N/A)	75	(N/A)	3.6	(N/A)
Colorado	253		(N/A)	4.3	(N/A)	7	(N/A)	0.8	(N/A)
Connecticut	226	. .	(N/A)	2.7	(N/A)	0	(N/A)	0.0	(N/A)
Delaware	276	33.	(N/A)	12.0	(N/A)	12	(N/A)	6.2	(N/A)
District of Columbia	437	63	(N/A)	14.4	(N/A)	30	(A/A)	6.9	(N/A)
Florida	1,395	166	(N/A)	11.9	(N/A)	40	(A/A)	2.9	(N/A)
Georgia	464		(N/A)	13.4	(N/A)	17	(A/A)	3.7	(N/A)
Hawaii	529	20	(N/A)	6.8	(N/A)	25	(N/A)	4. 3.	(N/A)
Idaho	332	25	(N/A)	7.5	(N/A)	80	(N/A)	2.4	(N/A)
Illinois	635	909	(N/A)	7.9	(N/A)	15	(N/A)	2.4	(N/A)
Indiana	3698	36	(N/A)	10.6	(N/A)	7	(N/A)	3.0	(N/A)
lowa	239	24	(N/A)	10.0	(N/A)	æ	(N/A)	3.3	(N/A)
Kansas	237	25	(N/A)	10.5	(N/A)	Ø	(N/A)	2.5	(N/A)
Kentucky	308	51	(N/A)	16.6	(N/A)	12	(A/A)	3.9	(N/A)
Louisiana	517	68	(N/A)	17.2	(N/A)	38	(N/A)	7.0	(N/A)
Maine	231	16	(N/A)	o, O	(N/A)	0	(N/A)	0.0	(N/A)
Maryland	263	20	(N/A)	7.6	(N/A)	'n	(N/A)	1.9	(N/A)
Massachusetts	445	43	(N/A)	7.6	(N/A)	12	(A/A)	2.7	(N/A)
Michigan	539	34	(N/A)	6.3	(N/A)	0	(A/A)	1.7	(N/A)
Minnesota	287	21	(N/A)	7.3	(N/A)	ব	(N/A)	4.1	(N/A)

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	All. income levels	Number	Standard error (19)	Percent	Standard error (19)	Number	Standard error (19)	Percent	Standard error (19)
Mississippi	459	69		15.0		18		6; 6	(N/A)
Missouri	328	58	:	7.5					(N/A)
Montana	525	. ෆි	(N/A)	5.7	(N/A)		(N/A)		(N/A)
Nebraska	252	: +-	3 (N/A)	25			(N/A)		(N/A)
Nevada	310		5 (N/A)	ထိ			(N/A)		(N/A)
New Hampshire	302	~	4 (N/A)	7.5				2.0	(N/A)
New Jersey	474	4	2 (N/A)	89.0	: :				(N/A)
New Mexico	576	7	(N/A)	13.					(N/A)
New York	1,080	12	(N/A)	11.					(N/A)
North Carolina	488	. ທີ :	2 (N/A)	10.				4.1	(N/A)
North Dakota	285		(N/N)	10.2	:		7 (N/A)	2.5	(N/A)
Ohio	565	10	(N/A)	8				3.5	(N/A)
Oklahoma	374	4	2 (N/A):						(N/A)
Oregon	308	•	8 (N/A)	'n				2.3	(N/A)
Pennsylvania	745	3	53 (N/A)	7.	The state of the s	ender a configuración describir de describir de la configuración de describir de de describir de	15 (N/A)	AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER	(N/A)
Rhode Island	212		7 (N/A)	8			(N/A)		(N/A)
South Carolina	413	. 4	(N/A)	10.			(A/N)	4.6	(N/A)
South Dakota	206	. ~	(N/A)	11.			(N/A)		(N/A)
Tennessee	455	. 4	(N/A)	10.			(N/A)		(N/A)
Texas	1,253	141		1			40 (N/A)	3.2	(N/A)
Utah	244		8 (N/A)	7.			(M/M)		(N/A)
Vermont	308	. 7	(N/A)	Ö			(N/A)	1 1 1 1	(N/A)
Virginia	421	: eo	(N/A)	்			7. (N/A)	4.0	(N/A)
Washington	413	7	(N/A)	ဖ်			(N/A)	1.5	(N/A)
West Virginia	549	4	41 (N/A)	7.		, man	(N/A)	1.6	(N/A)
Wisconsin	308	. (2)	20 (N/A)	့ ပ်	5 (N/A)		(Y/N)	2.9	(N/A)
Wyoming	262		27 (N/A)	10.	3 (N/A)		16 (N/A)	6.1	(N/A)

Data Appendix

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Montana	v	\$ 545 730	5 68.763	n m	47,390 S	. 27	27.599 s	150,139	V.	169,666 \$	163,737		\$ 305.614	514 5	,	1	v	2,057,542
Nebraska	ci vs	2.133.212	5 111.281	ıs ~	136,863 8	압	12,065 \$	306,591	₩	180,853 \$	717,021	237,431	\$ 6,762	. S	'n	902,734	y,	4,148,208
Nevada		1,849,788	\$ 93,606	,s	206,236 \$	5 267	267,649 \$	•	M	633,627 \$	537,120		\$ 111,395		<i>ω</i> 1 '	1,402,900	vn .	5, 162, 322
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New Jersey	* !!	11,075,501	\$ 110,312	(A)	3,023,155	3	360,032 \$	3,76,268	u :	5 62 179 5	2,879,038	_	, ,	, ,	,	2,570,941	v 2 M	23,131,164
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Orlahoma		127.800	5 117236	i sa	213,732	. ē	109,872 \$	397,196		\$ 670.528	383,599		\$ 679,406	s 905	,	1,705,963	sn.	5,637,256
Own	, ci	2 844 146	\$ 131,015	s s	331,269	335	334,802 \$	558,406	49	592,027 \$	1,047,160	627,299	\$ 23,424	424 \$,	•	s	376,720
Penneythania		7,924,788	\$ 635,150	va va	1,344,337	\$50 5	\$ 572,53	2,673,134	N 11	176,847 \$	2,900,976			4 7	1,601,434 \$	3,0%,831	e;	24,272,184
Rhode Island	⊶i sn	.457.505	\$ 15,657	N t	105,296	S 115	119,871 \$	120,112	5/1	\$ 407,69	264,158		, vi	'n	,	301 452	vi	2,561,447
South Carolina	2	4,013,627	\$ 112,38	C 44	92,969	\$ 19	288 8	327,809	'n	\$ 053,130	480,093	329,277	un i	به د	,	1.118,068	,	7,335,248
South Dallon	'n	611,621	\$ 45,913	۵ ۳	14,129	₹ v	48.072 \$	24,819	'n	187,092.	46,016		S	8,950 S	v1 *	5787,875		1,674,488
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j j	A :	27,058,834	45,735	n e	2.01.03	3 2	4 62C111C	, 100		100 001	900 950	886 800	25,743	Z E P L	9 64	747 597	• •	4 214 50
e central	 -5 Y	740,452	05.4 E.C.	1 v	150.417	1 2	21.101	105.817	, ,,	2 040 6	143.987				,	106.887	. 63	1,452,129
Vermon	1 00	000 4	221,686	, v	611.108	8	\$ 932.516	740.511		\$ 897.481	754,193	~	5 141,383	383 %	\$	1,395,473	v	13,946,349
Westmeton	, 4	4 809 557	\$ 225.273	, w	1,173,192	e e	520,869 5	'	V	829,553 \$	1,330,732		\$5¢	55,445 \$	3,250,359 \$	4,680,139	s	16,895,119
West Virginia	- س	1 207,795	\$ 113,535	35 \$	183,464	S 25	254,763 \$	203,50%	ė,	\$ 301,661	270.784		s 682,379	379 \$,	635,220	v	3,886,650
Wheelasm	N.	5.622.013	\$ 234,637	33	379,249	S.	3,415 5	986,464	64	3,500 \$	1,249,611	023,060	s.	× 136.%	,	1,605,086	'n	11,709,090
																		1

Source: AEG Estimake, using base data from U.S. Ceneus of Governments State and Local Finance Survey and other federal and state sources. See Methodology Appendix for complete source list.
Note: Due to the manue of New Mexico's grass receipts tax, we thow it here as a general sales and detarmine the emount paid by business using the same method as for general sales saxes in other states.
Note: Pennsylvania's innemployment compensation was collected from the stat's Comprehensive Armuni Financial Report, due to sensus figures occrediting bond revenue as tax revenue.

State Business Tax Burden Rankings

Distribution among Corporate Taxpayers

Based on corporate income tax return data from the Department of Revenue, we are able to estimate how the distribution of the direct corporate tax burden would be affected by Measure 97 based on both Oregon sales and industry category.

Table 3: Corporate Taxes under Current Law (2013) and Measure 97 Based on Oregon Sales

			Current Law	Meast	ıre 97
		Tax Under	Percent of	Tax Under	Percent of
	1	Current	Total	Measure	Total
	Number	Law	Corporate	97	Corporate
Oregon Sales	of Filers	(millions)	Taxes	(millions)	Taxes
< \$500,000	17,809	\$10.2	2.2%	\$10.2	0.4%
\$500,000 to \$1 million	3,016	\$6.5	1.4%	\$6.5	0.2%
\$1 to \$2 million	2,570	\$12.4	2.7%	\$12.4	0.4%
\$2 to \$3 million	1,227	\$6.9	1.5%	\$6.9	0.2%
\$3 to \$5 million	1,309	\$11.2	2.4%	\$11.2	0.4%
\$5 to \$7 million	727	\$12.2	2.6%	\$12.2	0.4%
\$7 to \$10 million	658	\$15.0	3.3%	\$15.0	0.5%
\$10 to \$25 million	1,108	\$51.0	11.1%	\$51.0	1.8%
\$25 to \$50 million	491	\$54.5	11.8%	\$148.1	5.2%
\$50 to \$75 million	189	\$39.1	8.5%	\$178.7	6.2%
\$75 to \$100 million	97	\$29.0	6.3%	\$150.8	5.2%
> \$100 million	274	\$213.0	46.2%	\$2,273.0	79.0%
Total	29,475	\$461.1	100.0%	\$2,876.0	100.0%

Source: Oregon Department of Revenue/ LRO Calculations

Overlaying Measure 97's corporate minimum tax structure on the 2013 tax returns indicates that corporations would have paid approximately \$2.9 billion in taxes instead of the \$461 million they actually paid under current law. Corporations with Oregon sales less than \$25 million would have paid the same amount as current law. Their share of total corporate taxes would fall from 27.2% to 4.4%. Corporations with Oregon sales greater than \$25 million would incur the full \$2.4 billion increase in corporate taxes. The share of corporate taxes paid by the 274 filers with sales above \$100 million would increase from 46.2% to 79.0%. The tax increase resulting from Measure 97 is expected to be heavily concentrated on a relatively small number of corporate taxpayers. 66% of the tax increase is expected to fall on the 100 largest taxpayers, while the top 50 taxpayers account for 51% of the increase.



Title: "Numbers"

Type: TV

Date: 9/14/2016

Claim	Backup
VO:	
Oregon has a numbers problem.	
Two hundred and eighty thousand uninsured	US Census Bureau, <u>Health Insurance Coverage in</u> the United States: 2015, Current Population Reports, September 2016
	Table A-1, Population with Health Insurance Coverage by State: 2013 to 2015.¹
the fourth lowest high school graduation rate	National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data, Table 1, School Year 2013-14
	Oregon has a 79% graduation rate in a table of public high school 4-year adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR), by race/ethnicity and selected demographics for the United States, the 50 states, and the District of Columbia: School year 2013–14.2
one in ten seniors in poverty.	U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
	In 2014, 55,000 Oregon seniors were living below the federal poverty line, or 1 in 10.3
One reason? With Oregon's corporate taxes lowest in the nation	State Business Tax Burden Rankings Report, Anderson Economic Group, 2016
	"In addition, Oregon and North Carolina

¹ US Census Bureau, <u>Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2015, Current Population Reports,</u> September 2016, p.25

² National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data, Table 1, School Year 2013-14

³ U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

had the lowest tax burden on business..."4

Total state and local business taxes, state by state estimates for fiscal year 2014, Ernst & Young, October 2015

"Connecticut and **Oregon** had the lowest total effective business tax (TEBTR) on gross state product (GSP) at 3.4%"⁵

"On the other end of the spectrum, North Carolina, **Oregon**, Connecticut and Maryland have low ratios of tax collections to GSP."⁶

... large and out-of-state corporations like Comcast and Chevron pay almost nothing.

ALT: ... large and out-of-state corporations pay almost nothing.

Corporate Tax Dodging in the Fifty States, 2008-2010, Citizens for Tax Justice, December 2011

> "68 of the 265 companies managed to pay no state income tax at all in at least one year from 2008 through 2010, despite telling their shareholders they made almost \$117 billion in pretax U.S. profits in those no-tax years. 16 of these companies enjoyed multiple no-tax years."

Comcast and Chevron are listed in a chart of state income taxes for 265 Major Corporations, 2008–2010, by 3-year tax rate (in \$-millions).8

Comcast Form 10-K, <u>Annual Report</u>, February 5, 2016

In 2015, Comcast reported \$570 million in current state income tax, which comes to an effective 0.77% state and local tax rate.

⁴ State Business Tax Burden Rankings Report, Anderson Economic Group, 2016

⁵ <u>Total state and local business taxes, state by state estimates for fiscal year 2014</u>, Ernst & Young, October 2015, p.11

⁶ <u>Total state and local business taxes, state by state estimates for fiscal year 2014</u>, Ernst & Young, October 2015, p.12

⁷ Corporate Tax Dodging in the Fifty States, 2008-2010, Citizens for Tax Justice, December 2011, p.1

⁸ Corporate Tax Dodging in the Fifty States, 2008-2010, Citizens for Tax Justice, December 2011, p.14 and 16

	They reported \$8.2 billion in after-tax profits on \$74.5 billion in revenue. ⁹
	Chevron Form 10-K, <u>Annual Report</u> , 2015
	In 2015, Chevron reported negative \$187 million in current state and local income tax and \$4.6 billion in after-tax profits on \$138 billion in revenue. Chevron had an effective state and local tax rate of -0.2% on its revenue last year. ¹⁰
Measure Ninety Seven forces corporations with over twenty-five million in Oregon sales to pay their fair share.	
To fund education, healthcare, and senior services.	
It adds up to a better Oregon.	
Paid for by Yes on 97.	

⁹ Comcast Form 10-K, <u>Annual Report</u>, February 5, 2016, p.40 and 107 ¹⁰ Chevron Form 10-K, <u>Annual Report</u>, 2015, p.53 and 68